

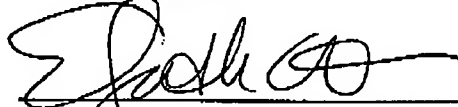
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 1 and 3-8, 10-12 and 14-21 are in the application. Claims 10-12 and 14-18 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 1-12, 16, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over *Hettinga* in view of *Putzler*. The Examiner stated that claims 13-15 and 17-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the elements of claims 9 and 13, now canceled. Claim 17 has been amended to include the elements of claims 1 and 9. The dependencies of the remaining claims have been corrected where necessary to reflect these amendments.

It is now believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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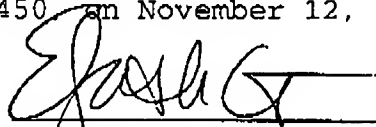
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Enclosure: Copy of Petition for 3-month Extension of Time

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

Fax No. 703-872-9306

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile-transmission to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 12, 2004.



Elizabeth Collard Richter